

In the Claims:

The claims stand as follows:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) A system established in a communication network comprising:

a data manager, for storing subscriber information for a first set of paid subscribers, partial subscriber information for a second set of paid subscribers, and metadata describing the subscriber information for a non-paying non-subscriber and a search engine robot;

a transmission source determiner, for receiving an access request to the data manager from a transmission source, and for determining whether the transmission source is one of the first set of subscribers, the second set of subscribers, the non-subscriber, or the search engine robot; and

a response unit, for

if the transmission source determiner determines that the transmission source is the first set of paid subscribers, transmitting said subscriber information to the transmission source through the communication network,

if the transmission source determiner determines that the transmission source is the second set of paid subscribers, transmitting said partial subscriber information to the transmission source through the communication network, and

if the transmission source determiner determines that the user is one of

the non-paying non-subscriber or the search engine robot, transmitting said metadata to the transmission source through the communication network;

wherein the first set of paid subscribers has full unrestricted access to an information site;

wherein the second set of paid subscribers has partially restricted access to the information site;

wherein metadata comprises a textual description of the subscriber information, a keyword related to the textual description for preparing a search engine keyword index, and subscription information describing how to join at least one of the first set of paid subscribers or the second set of paid subscribers;

wherein the non-paying non-subscriber has no access to the information site.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17 further comprising:

an information communication terminal, for accessing the information site on the communication network, and for obtaining information available at said information site; wherein a request for said information and identification information for said information communication terminal is transmitted to acquire said information; wherein when said information falls in an access right range that is set in accordance with said identification information, said information is provided by said information site; and wherein when said information does not fall in said access right range, metadata for describing said information is provided.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 18, wherein said metadata obtained from said information site includes text data for explaining said information.

20. (Previously Presented) A system provided in a communication network comprising:

a data manager, for storing information to be provided across said communication network;

a transmission source determiner, for ascertaining the type of a transmission source from which an access request is received; and

a response unit, for (a) acquiring from said data manager information correlating with said type obtained in accordance with the determination made by said transmission source determiner, and for (b) generating and returning a response consonant with said type,

wherein said data manager stores main information and metadata for describing said main information; and

wherein, as the result of the determination by said transmission source determiner, when said transmission source has no right of access for said main information, said response unit obtains said metadata for generating a metadata response;

wherein, when said transmission source comprises a robot in a robot search engine that is launched across said communication network, said response unit generates the metadata response, and wherein the metadata response comprises a

keyword concerning said main information;

wherein said transmission source determiner includes a user agent register, wherein said robot and a user agent header that said robot adds to said access request are registered in said user agent register as correlating with each other; and wherein when said user agent header is registered in said user agent register, said transmission source determiner determines said transmission source to be said robot.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein each access right of a user for said main information is registered in the user register; wherein when a user ID and said access request are received and registered in said user register, said transmission source determiner notifies said response unit of a range of said access rights of said user indicated in said user register; and wherein said response unit generates a metadata response comprising text data for describing said main information, in accordance with said range.

22. (Previously Presented) A robot search engine response system comprising:

a transmission source determiner, for analyzing an access request received by a web server provided on a communication network, and for identifying said transmission source of said access request; and

a response unit, for, when said transmission source comprises a robot of a robot search engine, transmitting a keyword concerning a web page source to said

robot;

wherein the web page source is associated with the access request;

wherein said transmission source determiner comprises a user agent register,

wherein said robot and a user agent header that said robot adds to said access request are registered in said user agent register as correlating with each other, and

wherein when said user agent header is registered in said user agent register, said transmission source determiner determines said transmission source to be said robot.

23. (Previously Presented) A robot search engine registration method comprising the steps of:

mechanically accessing a web site via a communication network and obtaining a web page source stored at said web site;

accepting an access request from a robot of a robot search engine that prepares a web page search list; and

transmitting to said robot a keyword concerning said web page source;

wherein, when the access of said web page source is limited, and when access by said robot is not permitted, text data is transmitted.

24. (Previously Presented) A storage medium on which input means of a computer stores a computer-readable program that permits said computer to perform:

a process for analyzing an access request received by a web server that is

provided on a communication network and for determining a transmission source of said access request; and

a process for, when said transmission source of said access request comprises a robot of a robot search engine, transmitting a keyword concerning a web page source to said robot;

wherein said web page source is associated with said access request;

wherein, when the access of said web page source is limited, and when access by said robot is not permitted, said program transmits text data.

25. (Previously Presented) A program transmission apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing a computer-readable program that permits said computer to perform

a process for analyzing an access request received by a web server that is provided on a communication network and for determining a transmission source of said access request, and

a process for, when said transmission source of said access request comprises a robot of a robot search engine, transmitting a keyword concerning a web page source to said robot; and

transmission means for reading said program from said storage means and for transmitting said program;

wherein said web page source is associated with said access request;

wherein, when the access of said web page source is limited, and when an access by said robot is not permitted, said program transmits said text data.